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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : 25X1A9a [REDACTED]

DATE: 2 Feb 55.

FROM : 25X1A9a [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ~~OCI~~ Draft for memo to reply to OCI on Biographic project.

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- 25X1A9a 1. Attached is subject draft.
2. [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] OCI, who informed him that it was NSA which really needed the coverage of diplomatic functions by us. OCI has always represented NSA in this matter; and NSA seems to be one of the principle users of our biographic cards. I gather that ~~the~~ OCI would also prefer us to continue this coverage, and NSA's position was ~~strong~~ enough to make OCI reverse its stand. [REDACTED] apparently was giving [REDACTED] this information as confidential background on the matter; so perhaps he should not be quoted.

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1. At a meeting held 8 December 1954 to consider means for bringing biographic data extraction from the USSR press up to date, FDD proposed cutting reports of diplomatic functions in Moscow because these reports were time-consuming and involved a mechanical listing of names. OCI and State agreed to this cut at that time, stating that they followed diplomatic functions very closely in their current operations. FDD proposed this cut in order to maintain current exploitation at the expense of what amounted to a carding operation.

2. OCI has now requested that such coverage be restored. The additional work load involved could be absorbed by FDD provided the T/O allotted for extraction of biographic data were filled. Eight positions or one-sixth of the total linguist T/O are allocated for this. Considering all other intelligence needs, this proportion cannot be increased. purpose, of which six are currently filled. At the present rate of recruiting, it is anticipated that a full complement of personnel will not be available for the next two months, and that it will be three months before eight trained people will be on duty.

3. All coverage will fall progressively behind receipts of publications if this expanded coverage is attempted while the project is understaffed. Personnel shortages have already caused processing to lag behind receipts at the present level of coverage.

4. In order to provide coverage of diplomatic functions pending the attainment of a full personnel complement, the following alternatives are offered:

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- a. Temporary elimination of some other category or categories;
- b. Temporary assignment of an OCI analyst for all or part of the period to scan and mark the newspapers for FDD personnel or otherwise to assist in the actual exploitation process;
- c. Temporary assignment of an FDD clerk-typist with some knowledge of Russian to card name lists from reports of diplomatic functions. This will be done as a temporary expedient, but will not completely solve the problem.

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